

The Lord's Service

December 9, 2018

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

*Song of Praise with Greeting

For the Cause



1. For the cause of Christ the King we give our
2. For the King, once lift - ed high to cries of
3. Let it be my life's re-frain, "To live is



lives, an of - fer - ing, 'til all the earth re-sounds with
rage, of "cru - ci - fy". en-dured the cross as ev - 'ry
Christ, to die is gain." De - ny my-self, take up my



cease-less praise to the Son. For the cause of Christ we
sin was laid on the Son. To the King who con- quered
cross, and fol - low the Son. Let it be my life's re -



go with joy to reap, with faith to sow, as man-y see and man-y
death, to free the poor and the op pressed for last ing peace, for life and
frain, "To live is Christ, to die is gain." De-ny my self, take up my



put their trust in the Son. Christ we pro -
lib - er - ty in the Son.
cross, and fol - low the Son.



claim, the Name a - bove ev - 'ry name. For all cre - a - tion, ev - 'ry



na - tion, God's sal - va - tion through the Son.

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, let us prepare to meet the omnipresent God in worship.

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Matt Arbuckle Family

*Call to Worship

Psalm 97.1-9

LEADER: The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! Clouds and thick darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

PEOPLE: **Fire goes before Him and burns up His adversaries all around.**

LEADER: His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

PEOPLE: **The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.**

LEADER: The heavens proclaim His righteousness, and all the peoples see His glory.

PEOPLE: **All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship Him, all you gods!**

LEADER: Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of Your judgements, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **For You, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods.**

*Hymn

No. 194

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Invocation

Elder Tony DeMarco

God Cleanses Us

Reading of the Law of God

Deuteronomy 6.10-12

LEADER: And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you - with great and good cities that you did not build,

PEOPLE: **And houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant - and when you eat and are full,**

LEADER: Then take care lest you forget the Lord, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

*Whether seated or kneeling,
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

**Almighty, eternal God and Father,
we confess and acknowledge unto You
that we were conceived in unrighteousness
and are full of sin
and transgression in all our life.
We do not fully believe Your Word
nor follow Your holy commandments.
Remember Your goodness,
we beseech You,
and for Your Name's sake
be gracious unto us,
and forgive us our iniquity which truly is great. Amen.**

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:

“He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

*Hymn

No. 195

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

God Consecrates Us

Old Testament Reading

Elder Mark Lander

Luke 1.26-38 (p. 855)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Choir

Blessed Is the Lord

Benedictus, Benedictus, Blessed is our Lord.
Benedictus, Benedictus, Welcome His Incarnate Word.

Chosen first among the priests to serve within the temple walls,
Zacharias stood in awe when he heard the angel call.

Benedictus, Benedictus, Blessed is our Lord.
Benedictus, Benedictus, Welcome His Incarnate Word.

“Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, will come to raise salvation’s horn.
God incarnate, Word made flesh, to a virgin shall be born.”

Benedictus, Benedictus, Blessed is our Lord.
Benedictus, Benedictus, Welcome His Incarnate Word.

Christ brings light to sin’s dark night: Our Dayspring, Jesus from on high,
Saints and angels sing God’s praise. All the earth and heavens reply:

Benedictus, Benedictus, Blessed is our Lord.
Benedictus, Benedictus, Welcome His Incarnate Word.

(Forrest 2013 Beckenhorst Press)

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: alleluia, alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Jones

*Hymn

Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth; plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.
Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.
Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us;
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

(2005 Thankyou Music)

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 11.1-10 (p. 575)

Sermon

Pastor Steere

OUR KING AND HIS KINGDOM

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*Confession of Faith (in unison) Belgic Confession, 37

**We believe, according to the Word of God,
when the time appointed by the Lord
(which is unknown to all creatures) is come,
and the number of the elect complete,
that our Lord Jesus Christ will come from heaven,
corporally and visibly,
as He ascended, with great glory and majesty
to declare Himself judge
of the quick and the dead.
And for a gracious reward,
the Lord will cause them to possess
such a glory as never entered
into the heart of man to conceive.
Therefore we expect that great day
with a most ardent desire to the end,
that we may fully enjoy the promises
of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN.
“Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”**

*Gloria Patri

No. 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Postlude